

Yellow Lake Fishery Area (Statewide Habitat Area)

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Property Overview

Yellow Lake Fishery Area (statewide habitat area) consists of 243 acres located along the eastern shore of Yellow Lake at the mouth of the Yellow River in Burnett County, 2.7 miles northwest of the City of Webster.

The confluence of the Yellow River and Yellow Lake serves as important fish spawning habitat. Yellow Lake contains an excellent fishery. Anglers can expect to find abundant populations of walleye and muskellunge, while northern pike and panfish are common. Other fish include largemouth and smallmouth bass, catfish and lake sturgeon.

The Yellow Lake Statewide Habitat Area was purchased in 1984 to protect important spawning habitat and lakeshore on Yellow Lake, while providing a public fishing and hunting area.

Facilities and Recreation Management

There are no developed facilities on this property. A boat launch is not present on the property, but a developed launch is available less than 0.5 miles north of the property. Visitors to the property may fish, hunt, trap, hike, view wildlife, canoes/kayak, and gather wild edibles.

Natural Resources Management

The management goal for this property is to protect the fishery habitat of Yellow Lake, its tributaries and springs, provide fishing opportunities, manage habitat for fish and wildlife, implement sustainable forest management, and provide opportunities for wildlife and nature-based recreation. Habitat is managed to protect spawning while providing wildlife habitat, timber values and compatible outdoor recreational opportunities.

Special Attributes:

“Primary Sites” are identified by the department for special consideration during the property planning process. The sites warrant high protection and/or restoration consideration during development of a master plan as they generally encompass the best examples of rare and representative natural communities or contain documented rare species populations with opportunities for restoration or connections. Primary Sites may be considered High Conservation Value Forests for the purpose of Forest Certification. The NHC program is collecting/analyzing field data to finalize Primary Site determinations by August 2018. Currently, no State Natural Areas are designated on this property.

Challenges & Constraints

Pontoons and other motorized watercraft using this area for recreation are contributing heavily to erosion of the river banks.

